

Children with Autism Waiver

What is the Children with Autism Waiver?

The Children with Autism Waiver provides access to services for children ages five and under with Autism. The Waiver allows children to live in their community while keeping them out of institutions.

Who is eligible?

Children who:

- Are ages five and under;
- Are determined financially eligible for Medicaid by the local County of Social/Human Services;
- Are determined to meet Social Security Administration definition of disability;
- Are at risk of institutionalization as determined by the case manager;
- Have a diagnosis of Autism as certified by a physician and not reached 6 years old; and
- Are determined by the case manager to be safely served in the community.

How does someone apply?

- The applicant must first go to a Community Centered Boards (CCB) to be evaluated. CCBs provide case management services and assessments necessary for the waiver.
- An applicant must go to their local County of Social/Human Services to apply for Medicaid and to submit a Disability application (CEL). Disability determination may take up to 90 days.
- The CCB case managers work with behavioral therapy providers to create a service plan.

What are the benefits?

- Behavioral therapy.
- Benefits are for three years or until the child's 6th Birthday, with annual costs up to \$25,000 per year.

Where can a child get benefits?

- Benefits are available through a certified provider. The CCB will assist the family to locate a provider.

What is the enrollment limit?

- Seventy-five children may be served at this time.
- As of April, 2008 75 children are enrolled, and there is a waitlist of 127.

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